

Sunday, November 1, 2020
Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
All Saints Day
Order of Service

Gathering Song..... “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” (*Hymnal*, #334)

There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the spirit of the Lord; There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. Sweet holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

Greeting/Call to Worship..... **Sister Cynthia**

Leader: We gather today to remember who we are.

People: **We are the beloved children of God.**

Leader: We gather today to remember those who have died and have gone before us.

People: **They are the beloved children of God.**

Leader: We gather today because those whom have died are gathered with the other Saints.

People: **The cloud of witness are the beloved children of God. We give praise and glory to God for their life among us.**

Leader: Remind us that we belong to, O God of love and Grace!

ALL: **For all the saints who from their labor rest we say Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!**

Hymn of Praise “**Marching To Zion**”
(sing along with instrumental)

1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Refrain: **We’re marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion; we’re marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.**

2 Let those refuse to sing, who never knew our God; but children of the heav’nly King, but children of the heav’nly King may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.
(Refrain)

3 The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets before we reach the heav’nly fields, before we reach the heav’nly fields, or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets. *(Refrain)*

4 Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry; we're marching through Immanuel's ground, we're marching through Immanuel's ground, to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high. *(Refrain)*

Prayer of Confession and Assurance *(Unison)*

Loving God, we come thanking you for the faithful witness of your saints in every time and place. We are especially grateful to you for those who have lived among us and touched our lives. Like them, may we grow in trust of you becoming agents of your love, kindness, and mercy. We rejoice at the signs in our midst of your love and faithfulness, answered prayers, your living word, the meal you provide. With hearts broken by our own sins against God and each other, we come today repenting and trusting God's mercy and grace. May we receive the forgiveness of sins obtained by Jesus for our sake. **Amen.**

The Invocation

Song of Meditation — “For Your Glory” *(song by Trey McLaughlin and men of SOZ)*

The Prayer of Illumination *(Unison)*

Show us your way, O Lord, teach us your paths, guide us in your truth, and teach us, for you are our Savior, and our hope is in you all day long. Just as your Word has been manna to those Saints whom we remember today, so may it be a lamp unto our pathway. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1

(Isaiah 25:6–9, Common English Bible)

⁶ On this mountain,

the LORD of heavenly forces will prepare for all peoples
a rich feast, a feast of choice wines,
of select foods rich in flavor,
of choice wines well refined.

⁷ He will swallow up on this mountain the veil that is veiling all peoples,
the shroud enshrouding all nations.

⁸ He will swallow up death forever.

The LORD God will wipe tears from every face;
he will remove his people's disgrace from off the whole earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ They will say on that day,

“Look! This is our God,
for whom we have waited—
and he has saved us!

This is the LORD, for whom we have waited;
let's be glad and rejoice in his salvation!”

Scripture Reading #2

(Revelation 21:1–6a, Common English Bible)

New Heaven and New Earth

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ I heard a loud voice from the throne say, “Look! God's dwelling is here with humankind. He will dwell with them, and they will be his peoples. God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more. There will be no mourning, crying, or

pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”⁵ Then the one seated on the throne said, “Look! I’m making all things new.” He also said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”⁶ Then he said to me, “All is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will freely give water from the life-giving spring.

Scripture Reading #3

(John 11:32–44, Common English Bible)

³² When Mary arrived where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn’t have died.”

³³ When Jesus saw her crying and the Jews who had come with her crying also, he was deeply disturbed and troubled. ³⁴ He asked, “Where have you laid him?”

They replied, “Lord, come and see.”

³⁵ Jesus began to cry. ³⁶ The Jews said, “See how much he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “He healed the eyes of the man born blind. Couldn’t he have kept Lazarus from dying?”

Jesus at Lazarus’ Tomb

³⁸ Jesus was deeply disturbed again when he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone covered the entrance. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Remove the stone.”

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said, “Lord, the smell will be awful! He’s been dead four days.”

⁴⁰ Jesus replied, “Didn’t I tell you that if you believe, you will see God’s glory?” ⁴¹ So they removed the stone. Jesus looked up and said, “Father, thank you for hearing me. ⁴² I know you always hear me. I say this for the benefit of the crowd standing here so that they will believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ Having said this, Jesus shouted with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his feet bound and his hands tied, and his face covered with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Untie him and let him go.”

Doxology – “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” *(recite in unison)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be low; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

The Affirmation of Faith — “The Apostles’ Creed” *(recite in unison)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried:
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

The Gloria Patri – “Glory Be to the Father” (*Recite in unison*)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. **Amen.**

Children / Youth Moment**Jaime Coffen**

Roll Call of the Saints**Sandra Johnson**

Lighting Saint’s Candles

- ✠ **Jessie James Stratford, Jr.** – December 9, 2019 – Beloved Brother of St. Mark’s member Delores Stratford; Beloved Uncle and Cousin to St. Mark’s members of the Stratford Family
- ✠ **Calvin Eugene Jones** – January 21, 2020 – Beloved Brother of St. Mark’s members Barbara Jones and Carolyn Noel
- ✠ **James (Jim) Thomas** – May 2020 – Beloved Brother of St. Mark’s member Charlotte Thomas
- ✠ **Charlene Regina Thomas** – May 25, 2020 – Beloved Sister of St. Mark’s members Sharon Thomas, Tina Thomas-Matthews, and Gloria Thomas
- ✠ **Mel Goldsborough** – May 2020 – Beloved Aunt of St. Mark’s members Cynthia and David Burley and Deidre Burley Ballard
- ✠ **Icilma Cox** – June 5, 2020 – St. Mark’s Member – Liturgist, Member of the Church Council; Beloved mother of Bernadette Cox
- ✠ **Louis Carter** – October 2020 – Beloved Uncle of St. Mark’s members Troy and Andrea Gibson
- ✠ **Ronald Smith** – October 2020 – Beloved Husband of St. Mark’s member Angela Smith
- ✠ **Barbara Matthews** – October 2020 – Beloved Sister-in-law of St. Mark’s member Gertrude Curry; Beloved Aunt of St. Mark’s member Diane Cobb

Hymn of Preparation — “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” (*sing along with Hasan Green*)

1 We are often tossed and driv’n on the restless sea of time.
Somber skies and howling tempests oft succeed a bright sunshine.
In that land of perfect day, When the mists have rolled away,
We will understand it better by and by.

Refrain:

By and by when the morning comes, when the saints of God are gathered home,
We will tell the story how we've overcome; for we'll understand it better by and by.

- 2** We are often destitute of the things that life demands.
Want of food and want of shelter, thirsty hills and barren lands.
We are trusting in the Lord, and according to his Word,
We will understand it better by and by.
- 3** Trials dark on ev'ry hand, and we cannot understand,
All the ways that God would lead us to that blessed Promised Land.
But he guides us with his eye and we'll follow till we die.
For we'll understand it better by and by. **[Refrain]**
- 4** Temptations, hidden snares often take us unawares,
And our hearts are made to bleed for some thoughtless word or deed.
And we wonder why the test when we try to do our best.
But we'll understand it better by and by. **[Refrain]**

Inspirational Message..... Rev. Eugene Matthews

“Making All Things New”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call Rev. Eugene Matthews

Selection — “I Know I Can Make It” (*sing along with Andre Mata & Soul Gospel Project*)

Holy Communion *The Great Thanksgiving for All Saints*

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

The pastor takes the bread and cup, and the bread and wine are prepared for the meal.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical settings on pages 17-25 may be used if desired.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty (*almighty God*),
Creator of heaven and earth.
God of Abraham and Sarah,
God of Miriam and Moses,
God of Joshua and Deborah,
God of Ruth and David,
God of the priests and the prophets,
God of Mary and Joseph,
God of the apostles and the martyrs,
God of our mothers and our fathers,
God of our children to all generations.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Renew our communion with all your saints, especially those whom we name before you—
Jessie James Stratford, Jr., Calvin Eugene Jones, James (Jim) Thomas, Charlene Regina
Thomas, Mel Goldsborough, Icilma Cox, Louis Carter, Ronald Smith, Barbara Matthews

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
strengthen us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfector of our faith.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. **Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

The pastor breaks the bread in silence, or while saying:

Because there is one loaf,
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The pastor lifts the cup in silence, or while saying:

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The bread and wine are given to the people, with these or other words being exchanged:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.
The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The congregation sings hymns while the bread and cup are given.

When all have received, the Lord's table is put in order.

The following prayer is then offered by the pastor or by all:

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

Announcements

Benediction

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Go forth in peace.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **Amen.**



*Happy Birthday and Anniversary
November Members*



Announcements

Pray Daily at Noon

Please remember to pray daily at NOON. Some areas to include in your prayer, can include the pandemic, racial healing, government leaders, educational challenges, and most importantly for our sick and shut-ins and each other.

Wednesdays (7:15 p.m.) — Wednesday Night Experience. Call-in Information: **712-770-4010 (Access code: 331960)**

Sunday, November 15th — Annual Women's Day. Information forthcoming. If you can assist Erica, Chair, in the plans for this day please reach out.

Note from Finance: First, let us give a big thank you to all that have been giving. This is a reminder that there are several ways to get your offering to the church:

1. You can drop it off at the church, place in the mailbox (Cynthia and David Burley check it regularly) *(This will save you postage)*
2. You can mail it to the church ([601 Eighth Street, Laurel, MD 20707](https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/stmarkslmd))
3. You can use on-line giving (Give–St. Marks — <https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/stmarkslmd>)
4. Reach out to member of finance, they will try to accommodate you.

Again, thank you. Just remember, even during the pandemic, the church building still has obligations that need to be met.

Vote



*"Proclaiming Christ to the generations...
Equipping disciples to transform the world"*

Special Prayers / Sick and Shut-In List: If you hear of anyone that is in need of special prayer or is taken to the hospital, please contact: Rev. Eugene Matthews (443.257.2730 (cell), 410.379.0600 (home), reveugene@comcast.net)

Marva Thomas, Nena Hughes, Deysha Gibson, Gloria Thomas, Sharon Thomas, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Sherman / Erica Roy, Janeen Thomas, Eunice Harding (Gemma's Mother), Tyrone / Pat Mundell, Samuel / James Briggs (Cynthia Burley's brothers), Charles Burley, Richard Cager, Jr., Joan Moore, Larry Powell, Veronica Miller, Jeanette Reeves, Ernestine Gibson, Mildred Awkward, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Laura Dotson, Phillip Reese, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Eunice Parker, Hannah Polk, Delores Tyler

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